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THE
Leather-Sellers and Leather-Dressers
CASE,

Humbly Offer'd to the Consideration of the Honourable
the KNIGHTS, CITIZENS, and BURGESSES of
GREAT BRITAIN in Parliament Assembled. K

THAT *Buffalo and Elk Hides* dress'd in Oil, do Pay Four Shillings per Hide Custom, besides the late Duty of 1711, of 4 pence per pound; and should 5d. a Pound more be added (computing them to Weigh 8 Pound per Hide one with the other) the whole Duties will Amount to 10s. a Hide, and then those Hides will not Sell for more than 16 s.

THAT *Deer-Skins* pay excessive Duties already, a farther Duty will Destroy that Trade, and instead of Advancing, will Lessen the Duty now Paid; the Dressers and Sellers will be greatly Prejudiced thereby.

THAT the former Custom which *Cordevants* pay, is 8 Shillings a Dozen, the late Duty 4 Shillings; the intended Duty 8 Shillings more, the Whole being Twenty Shillings a Dozen, which is near as much as many Parcels are Worth.

TANN'D *Goat Skins*, from *Barbary*, not called *Cordevants* in the Book of Rates, (tho' they really are *Cordevants*) and are usually called so by the Dealers therein, Pay 8 Shillings a Dozen Custom, and 6 Pence a Pound; or 4 Shillings a Dozen more by the late Duty; it cannot be suppos'd they can bear 6 Pence a Pound, or 8 Shillings a Dozen more, by which high Duties, the said *Goat Skins* will be Prohibited; which from *Turkey* and *Barbary*, are the usual Returns of our *Woollen Cloth*.

FOR the late Duty of 2 Pence a Pound, with the former Customs, on *Russia Hides*, has in a great manner Prohibited those Hides already, (which Account the Customs will make appear) the Consequence may be the same on all other *Skins* and *Hides* Imported.

THAT Tann'd *Sheep Skins* for Glovers and Bazills, are not of more Value than 4 Pence a Pound; yet as high a Duty of 1d. $\frac{1}{2}$ a Pound is laid on them as on *Calf Skins* Tann'd, which are Sold for 10 Pence a Pound.

SHEEP SKINS Taw'd are not worth 4 Pence a Pound, nor one Third part not above 1d. $\frac{1}{2}$ a Pound; how then can they bear 2 Pence a Pound Duty, and the Charge of Dressing, and if not Dress'd, how shall those Poor be Employed, who used to Dress and Manufacture those Ordinary Skins, upon which a greater Duty is intended than on *Calf Skins* Tann'd, which are of more than Three times their Value by Weight.

THAT so great an Additional Duty of 2 Pence a Pound on *Sheep* and *Lamb Skins* Dress'd in Oyl, will greatly Lessen the Consumption of them: Other Commodities will be Used in Lieu of them, which will Lessen the present Duty, and be a very great Hardship on the Traders in *Oyl Leather*.

FOR if no Provision be made in this Act, that Damaged, Broken parts, and pieces of Hides and Skins, (particularly Named) it will endanger the Ruin of all Dressers, particularly the *Oyl Leather-Dressers*, whose Trade is most liable to Damages, the High Duty that they will be Obliged to Pay, will be often more than they will Sell for, and Consequently they must be Thrown away before they are Finished, which otherwise might bear a Duty of 15 per Cent, *ad Valorem*, as well as those Parts and Pieces of Skins (not particularly named)

THAT those who are Retailers and Dealers in Leather, are not without Quantities of Ordinary, Braided, Unsaleable Goods, by which they are great Losers in the Prime Cost, besides the late Duty, which was a heavy Burthen, and the Time which the lesser Traders lost, was of a much greater Damage, than the Money they Paid amounted to.

FOR many Hundreds did not Pay Six-pence, and Thousands more less than Twenty Shillings a Piece, yet spent several Days before they could be Discharged, or work up their Goods, they having Orders from the Officers to the contrary. Therefore its humbly hoped that this Honourable House will not lay a farther Duty on Stock in Hand, which in the late Duty was so great a Hardship, and so inconsiderable Advantage to the Government.

All which is humbly Submitted to the great Wisdom and Justice of this Honourable House.

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